

form the attempt to depose the Czar may take. It will not be disclosed, of course, what sort of dictatorship may be designed to replace the present dynasty. The revolt, if it comes under military auspices, will not take the form of a republic nor that of autocracy.

No man has been marked out for leadership, but the army knows whom it can trust. Above all, he must be a real man. A mixture of pity and contempt for the poor creature at Tsarskoe-Selo best describes the attitude of all classes.

Little information as to what will come after the development of the demonstration in the provinces is available here, but all reports are very pessimistic and the attitude of the central authorities suggests the gloomiest conclusions. Whatever the truth may be, it has given rise to the most positive report in military circles that the war must be brought to a speedy end.

This indeed is the conclusion reached by all whose information makes their opinion valuable. There is, of course, nothing official pointing to early peace, but there is not the slightest doubt that even at present the authorities have made a sudden decision in this direction if Gen. Kuropatkin's intended move proves unsuccessful.

To sum up the situation: Japan won her greatest victory on Sunday in the streets of St. Petersburg. The present Government of Russia is in desperate straits. An important victory in Manchuria might prolong its existence for a brief space, but its downfall is certain. Its collapse may come in scenes of blood far more terrible than those of Sunday. The Czar no longer rules and Russia awaits his successor.

STRIKERS HOLD OUT.

Puttiff Workmen Stay at Home—More Disorder in Moscow.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 28.—Arrangements had been made by the authorities for the protection of the workmen who might want to resume work at the Puttiff works to-day, but no workmen approached the gates. They remained at their homes. The military have received orders not to attempt to coerce them.

The independent manufacturers found nearly a third of their operatives willing to resume.

No cotton operatives went to work to-day. The senior class of the Technological Institute, numbering 1,400, was not allowed to meet the lecturer this afternoon, because, like every association that has been permitted to assemble, it had adopted a resolution advocating a change in the Governmental system.

M. de Witte, the president of the Council of Ministers, yesterday for the first time since the disturbances had an audience with the Emperor at Tsarskoe-Selo.

The Russ declares: "There must be a change in our life." The Russ, like other newspapers, reappears under punitive censure. If its contents displease the authorities either its public sale is prohibited or it is absolutely suppressed. "One month has been enough to jump from promised reforms to unlimited suppression," it continues. "The principal newspapers of the capital, both Liberal, Constitutional or extreme revolutionist, find themselves in the same situation."

Admiral Alexieff has been named Viceroy of Manchuria. He is no longer Viceroy of the Orient. The alteration is the sequel of the official records of the fall of Port Arthur. The Minister of the Imperial Household, Gen. Baron Fredericksz, escorted the new Italian Ambassador, M. Melagari, late Italian Minister to Japan, to Tsarskoe-Selo this afternoon, for presentation to the Czar.

The council of Ministers with the Czar at Tsarskoe-Selo last night was of an informal character. Measures for remedying the situation, including the question of issuing an appeal to the public to exercise patience, were discussed. In this appeal it was proposed to assure the people that the Government was engaged actively in elaborating the reforms referred to in the ukase of Dec. 25.

Opinion was divided on this question and no decision was reached. Some of the councillors expressed the opinion that a repetition of the declarations in the ukase was superfluous.

The officers of the Semenovski regiment, who commanded the troops who fired on the people in the Nevski Prospekt last Sunday, have received a letter threatening them with death.

The strikers to-day attacked the works of Messrs. Melar at Rydal. The troops fired on the strikers, killing and wounding several.

The strikers at Dorpat attempted to wreck the waterworks, but were dispersed by the police, who fired a volley at them.

WARSAW, Jan. 28.—The strike here is general to-day. One hundred thousand men are out. No newspaper made its appearance to-day, and street car traffic is entirely suspended.

There are now 100,000 strikers at Lodz. The telephone service between Lodz and Warsaw has been suspended.

TWO WORKMEN HAVE BEEN KILLED AND SEVEN WOUNDED IN CONFLICTS IN WARSAW BETWEEN THE STRIKERS AND MILITARY.

ROME, Jan. 28.—A despatch from St. Petersburg says that the revolutionists in Moscow have made several attempts to free the inmates of the prison there. There have been several bomb outrages, and the hospitals are already overflowing. It is feared that there are not troops enough within call to quell the revolution.

PARIS, Jan. 28.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Aurore* says that the police have discovered that many of the troops must have fired at the Winter Palace, instead of at the crowd, on Sunday. They have found 200 bullet holes in the windows.

MOSCOW, Jan. 28.—Moscow's Liberal daily newspaper, the *Russki Vedomosti*, has been suspended by the authorities for three months.

STRIKES SPREADING.

Report From Our Consul-General at St. Petersburg.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Consul-General Watts, at St. Petersburg, has informed the State Department, in a despatch re-

ceived this morning, that the strikes are spreading.

The text of the cable is as follows: "Strikes spreading. Have just received telegram from Warsaw, all workshops stopped. Vilna railway men are joining Gdansk and waterworks operated by soldiers."

SAILORS MUTINY.

Departure of the Third Baltic Squadron Is Delayed.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 28.—The *Lokal Anzeiger's* Copenhagen correspondent says that the departure of the third Baltic squadron from Lihau for the Far East, which was officially promised for to-morrow, has been postponed by an outbreak of mutiny among the crews.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR RUSSIAN STRIKERS.

The New York section of the Social Democratic party has issued an appeal to the workers to contribute to a fund in aid of the men who are on strike or in revolution in Russia. After calling on the workers not to ignore their fellow workers in Russia the appeal says:

"It is well recognized that what is now going on in Russia is but the beginning of the revolution. Its success is not yet fully assured and there is need for bringing every effort to bear not only in the work of the revolution but also in the work of the political revolution that is now on, but that must come first to clear the way for the economic revolution."

TO PAY COTTON'S CLAIM.

Gov. Douglas Thinks He Is Entitled to \$100,000 From the State of Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—There has been speculation relative to the attitude which Gov. Douglas is likely to take on the claim of John B. Cotton, the legislative counsel who was authorized several years ago to represent the Commonwealth at Washington in the collection of Massachusetts civil war claims.

Under the contract which Mr. Cotton made with Gov. Wolcott and the executive council, he was to receive 10 per cent. of all the money collected from the United States Government on this claim, it then being assumed that the reimbursement to the State would be a comparatively small amount. Mr. Cotton succeeded in securing \$1,000,000 from the United States Government, his commission under the contract amounting to \$100,000.

A warrant for the amount was given to Mr. Cotton about a year ago, but having been led to believe that the Commonwealth, through the executive and law department, objected to paying him the full commission, he refused to turn it over. The matter has been hung up now for months. Mr. Cotton holding on to the warrant in the claim and having declined to give it up until he is assured that he will get his full commission.

Gov. Douglas believes the Commonwealth should keep its agreement. The Governor intends to take up the matter with Attorney-General Parker very soon. He wants it settled and settled very speedily.

ENGINEER DIES OF EXPOSURE.

Wise Struck to His Locomotive in the Blizzard and It Cost Him His Life.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—William E. Wise, who was an engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad, died to-day in the Presbyterian Hospital, from exposure during the blizzard on Wednesday night. Wise brought his train from Harrisburg and was frozen almost stiff when he reached Broad street. While rounding the curve near Bradford Hills, about thirty miles out of Philadelphia, the passenger engine struck a snow plough, disabling both and blocking the road.

Wise sent his fireman, Harris Lapp, back to flag a train following him and then started in to keep the fires going, so the passengers could keep warm.

"Wise was then covered with ice," said Lapp to-day. "When we struck the snow plough a valve burst and drenched him with hot water. His overcoat broke open in the seams from the ice and cold. His face was then frozen."

It was then 3:30 o'clock on Wednesday night and it was not until 3 o'clock the next morning that the train could start. All this time Wise was at work. He insisted upon bringing his train in himself and when he reached the station collapsed. Blood poisoning developed and he died to-day.

THE RATE MAKING PROBLEM.

Judge Cowan of Texas and Mr. Davenport Discuss It in the Senate Committee.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—In the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce to-day, Daniel Davenport of Bridgeport, Conn., undertook to question Judge S. H. Cowan of Texas on certain phases of the railroad rate making problem. Judge Cowan represents the Texas Cattle Raisers' Association and had been giving the committee his views on the advisability of giving Interstate Commerce Commission power to establish reasonable rates.

Mr. Davenport represents the Association for Maintaining the Rights of Property, which is largely composed of the owners of railroad stocks and bonds, and others indirectly interested in the ownership of such securities through deposits in savings banks, &c.

Judge Cowan referred to the fact that while the Texas railroads within the last five years had greatly increased the rates on interstate freight, the rates for freight within the State of Texas itself had not been advanced. By permission of the committee, Mr. Davenport asked Mr. Cowan questions tending to show that the Texas Railroad Commission, exercising its power to regulate the rates on traffic originating and ending within the borders of the State, had prevented the roads from raising the rates on such traffic.

Mr. Davenport sought to show that while the cost of materials used in the construction and operation of railroads, such as ties, locomotives, fuel and the wages of the employees, had all admittedly increased within the last five years, that the Texas commission, by preventing the railroads from raising the rates of freight on State traffic, had compelled them to get even by not only raising the rates of freight on interstate traffic originating within the State to cover the natural increase in the cost of handling such traffic, but also to bear the additional burden which should properly have been placed upon the purely State traffic.

In reply to Mr. Davenport's questions Mr. Cowan said that no rates on State traffic had been raised within the past few years.

"Then the owners of the 12,000 miles of railroads in Texas," said Mr. Davenport, "did not have confidence enough in the commission to apply for the privilege of raising the rates to offset the increase in the cost of maintenance?"

"Oh, yes," said Mr. Cowan, "they applied for the right, but they did not get it."

"Then if we have an increase in the cost of operation," commented Mr. Davenport, "we are not to have the opportunity to raise the rates accordingly?"

Mr. Davenport will be heard by the committee on Monday, and Judge Cowan will be heard again in about two weeks.

HEAVY LOSSES IN BATTLE.

RUSSIANS CLAIM VICTORY IN THEIR DESPERATE ATTACK.

Kuropatkin's Chief of Staff Says Japanese Fled, Throwing Away Their Arms. Toki Declares That Russians Were Driven Back—Fights Goes On.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 28.—Gen. Sakharoff, Gen. Kuropatkin's chief of staff, reports that the Russian cavalry, crossing the Hun River to the eastward, put to flight four Japanese battalions and six squadrons. The Japanese threw their arms into their ambulances and wagons.

TOKYO, Jan. 28.—Despatches received at headquarters yesterday announce that since Jan. 25 the Russians stationed upon the right bank of the Hun River have resumed active operations. A force consisting of more than one army corps advanced against Hokkaido and Chintampo, northwest of Laoyang. A Japanese detachment took the offensive on Jan. 26 and drove back the Russians, who were a division strong, at Chintampo. Another detachment has been engaged since that date with a Russian force, over a division in strength, near Hokkaido.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The losses of the Russians in capturing the fortified village of Sandupu, on the Japanese left flank, on Jan. 25, were 1,000 men and 45 officers. The Japanese also lost 1,000 men.

A message from Chantamun, dated Jan. 26, says that the Russians captured 102 prisoners, a quantity of arms and ammunition and a number of wagons.

A HILL OF DEATH.

How Thousands Died in One of the Port Arthur Assaults.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The absorbing interest to be paid to the full accounts now in London of one of the greatest feats of modern arms, the capture of Port Arthur, and the slaughter of thousands of Japanese in three or four unsuccessful attacks. The last assault encountered no resistance, for the infantry found the trenches filled with dead Russians, so awful had been the greatest bombardment in history. The crucial moment is thus described:

"At 3 o'clock forward movement was made by the soldiers on a companion hill, which was designated as 210. They pressed on, encountering little resistance, and were soon in possession of half the crest. At the same moment 500 men left a Japanese trench on 203 Metre Hill and rushed a Russian trench thirty yards away. The Japanese soldiers were sent to the trench. Then there was a full pause, and the artillery continued to bombard the summit of the mountains. Nothing could be seen of the Russians."

"A few minutes later the soldiers in possession of the first trench appeared on the far side and again moved forward. Every one watched with breathless anxiety for this part of the climb that had always been so fatal. The soldiers on 210 Hill also moved forward, and before one had time to realize what had happened the Japanese infantry were over the crest of both peaks and outlined against the sky-line."

"With the exception of three prisoners not a Russian was seen in the mountain. They had been shelled to pieces, and not even a mouse could have escaped from that hill. No mountain ever contained, concentrated in so small a space, so much of the horrors of war. The crest had been absolutely smashed to pieces. One could not even trace the lines of original defences."

"Among this confused jumble of rocks, sandbags, shells, charred timber, broken rifles, bits of uniforms and soldiers' accoutrements of every description the dead lay in hundreds, many smashed beyond resemblance to human form, so terrible is the effect of modern shellfire. On the east side of the mountain lay their bodies, and on the west side the dead Japanese. The summit was sacred to both."

"It had been freezing during the day of the attack and the bodies were perfectly preserved. Some seemed to have died a natural death, but the majority, especially the Japanese, who were struck down while advancing up a steep slope, lay there with clenched and a look of fierce resolve was written on their faces. The Russians, who for the most part met death while sitting in the trenches on the summit, were a pained, even surprised, appearance. In one place a dozen soldiers were sitting in a square shelter of sandbags when a big shell landed and killed them all."

"The defenses had been temporarily repaired from time to time, and often one could see the body of a soldier taking the place of a sandbag in improvised walls. Many of the dead had been killed far back as September and their bodies remained unburied in all stages of decay. By winter winds they had become black and stiff. As a result, charges were written on their faces. The Russians, who for the most part met death while sitting in the trenches on the summit, were a pained, even surprised, appearance. In one place a dozen soldiers were sitting in a square shelter of sandbags when a big shell landed and killed them all."

NORTH SEA INQUIRY.

Commissioners Receive Tickets for the "Flying Dutchman."

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

PARIS, Jan. 28.—The North Sea Commission slowly pursues its course, but as yet has not elicited any new facts. The Hull laborer who was the first to be killed is still being changed by his former statement. One cautiously emitted words at the rate of five a minute, while another talked too rapidly for the interpreter.

Admiral Fournier is proving to be an ideal president. He has tactfully smoothed the susceptibilities aroused in the sailors by the close cross-examination of the Russian agent. On noticing that one witness was wearing a medal he brought out the fact that it was for life saving, whereupon he immediately congratulated the wearer of it. To another sailor who belonged to the crew of the trawler *Crane*, which was sunk by the fire of the Russian ships, he said: "We commissioners are sailors, too, and desire to express admiration for the pluck you displayed."

It is customary in Paris for the Minister of Public Instruction to send complimentary tickets for State theatres to distinguished persons who happen to be in Paris. The city was highly amused this week to find that the North Sea commission had received grand opera tickets for Wagner's "Flying Dutchman."

THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Capt. March Says It Is Inadequate to Handle Sanitary Problems in a Great War.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Judging from his observations in Manchuria, Capt. Peyton C. March of the General Staff, who served as a military attaché with the Japanese army, expresses the opinion that the medical corps of the United States Army would be entirely inadequate to handle the great sanitary problems which would arise in the event of a great war. The portions of his report to the War Department deal-

ing with the medical corps of the army says:

"Whatever may be the theoretical arguments offered in opposition to the increase in our medical corps asked for by the Surgeon-General last winter, my experience here has convinced me that the General Staff should put itself on record as approving and recommending such an increase. Our present medical corps, assisted by the volunteer and State surgeons upon whom we could rely in time of war, will, in my opinion, be wholly inadequate to the task of handling the sanitary problems of a great war and in that emergency it will be extremely ill for the General Staff if it can be stated in truth that the number and grade of officers desired by the Surgeon-General to render his corps able to handle those problems have not been authorized because of the opposition of the General Staff."

Capt. March says that he noticed in Manchuria that the sanitary problems are of the first magnitude.

JAPS SEIZE AMERICAN STEAMER.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

TOKYO, Jan. 28.—The American steamship *M. S. Dollar*, on its way from San Francisco to Vladivostok with a cargo of provisions and forage, was seized yesterday by a Japanese warship east of the island of Hokkaido.

NAVAL ACADEMY PRIZES.

Member of a Kentucky Feud Family Gets the Honors in Target Practice.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Jan. 28.—The gold medal awarded annually to the member of the graduating class at the Naval Academy who proves most efficient in target practice with guns of large calibre has been won this year by Midshipman Edward G. Hargis of Winchester, Ky. This is of interest because the young midshipman is a member of the Hargis family, the famous feudists of Kentucky.

He has, however, won distinction for gun work along somewhat different lines than many of his connections. He has successfully completed his course at the Academy and will graduate on Monday.

Gold, silver and bronze medals for small arms marksmanship were respectively by William S. McClintock of Fort Lewis, Va.; Theodore G. Ellyson of Richmond, Va.; and Ormond L. Cox of Rix Mills, Ohio. A sword presented by the graduates of the Academy of the class of '71 for the best work in practical and theoretical gunnery and ordnance was won by Midshipman Royal E. Ingersoll, a son of Capt. R. R. Ingersoll, U. S. N.

FATHER HICKEY'S PROMOTION.

Made Coadjutor Bishop of Rochester With the Right of Succession.

ROCHESTER, Jan. 28.—The announcement came from Rome this week that Very Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, vicar-general of the diocese of Rochester, had been chosen coadjutor Bishop, with the right of succession, by the Congregation of the Propaganda, did not come as a surprise to Catholics of western New York. It was known that he was the personal choice of Bishop McQuaid, who last October caused the initial steps to be taken to secure the appointment of a coadjutor Bishop.

Father Hickey has always been an especial favorite of the Bishop, and in recent years has been closely identified with him in his work and has been in full sympathy with the Bishop's aims, plans and hopes for the future of the Church in this diocese. Father Hickey's name headed the list of three priests made up by the diocesan consultants and the irremovable rectors of the Rochester diocese, which was sent to the Bishops of the province. It is also known that his name appeared on the list prepared by the Bishops and forwarded to Rome.

The official announcement of Father Hickey's elevation to the episcopate has been made by the Propaganda, and is now being approved by the Pope. His appointment is expected as a matter of course.

The appointment of a coadjutor Bishop is of considerable interest and importance to Catholics in general, as it carries with it the right of succession. This means that Father Hickey will, upon the death of Bishop McQuaid, become the second Bishop of Rochester without any further appointment.

Bishop McQuaid is now in his eighty-second year and has ruled over this diocese as Bishop since it was established thirty-six years ago. He is a native of New York, and has been a member of the Bishops in the United States. Cardinal Gibbons was consecrated Archbishop in 1876, the year that Bishop McQuaid was consecrated. Other Bishops consecrated in that year and still living are Bishop Hogan of Kansas City and Bishop McCloskey of Louisville.

LOOKING INTO MARRIAGE.

Cops Say It Didn't Happen in Station House—Charges Against Sergeant.

DEPUTY POLICE COMMISSIONER LINDSEY investigated yesterday the story of Wilhelm Bay that a policeman of the East Fifty-first street station performed a mock marriage ceremony in the station house on Dec. 19 and that he didn't know how to legally marry to Marie Lehr until Christmas, whereupon he was really wedded to her by the Rev. Dr. Moldenke of St. Peter's German Lutheran Church on Lexington avenue. As a result, charges were prepared against Sgt. James McDonald.

Bay and his wife and Mary Jones, who says she was a witness at the mock ceremony, have had enough notoriety and didn't want to testify. It was only by subpoena that Lindsey got them to Headquarters yesterday.

Lindsey took all three witnesses to the station house, where he had the platform which had been in the house at the time of the alleged ceremony called in. Four men of the platform were not present, however. The three witnesses failed to identify the man who performed the ceremony. The Rev. Dr. Moldenke, who had been the fake marriage certificate.

Sgt. McDonald, who was on the desk at the time the charges were made, was placed, said the three came in at seven minutes to 12 P. M., Dec. 9. Bay wanted to get married and McDonald sent Patrolman Tobin out to get an Alkermid, sending the three into the room reserved for sergeants in the meantime. Tobin said that at 12:40 A. M. the three had left. All the police declared no fake marriage was performed.

McDonald is charged with violating the law which says a police station shall be used only for police business and that nobody is to remain there except by special permission of the officer in charge and on business in connection with the department. He is charged also under the "sergeant's rule," which makes a sergeant responsible for discipline and good order among roundmen and patrolmen.

Commissioner McAdoo has approved the recommendations of Deputy Commissioner Lindsey to dismiss five men from the force who have been up on trial for various offences. They are:

Thomas J. Wade of the Leonard street station, drunk; Joseph O'Brien of the West Forty-seventh street station, drunk in a box of the Victoria Theatre; Charles Sauerbrun of the East Twenty-second street station, drunk; Thomas Leonard of the East Twenty-second street station, drunk and fighting illness; Joseph Monahan of the West Forty-seventh street station, drunk and fighting illness.

Resides, he approved fines of twenty and thirty days against eight others. In several more cases he has decided to increase the penalty recommended by Lindsey.

FIVE COPS FIRED.

Commissioner Approves Some Penalties and Increases Others.

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The Weber Pianola Piano

Playable either from the key-board or by means of a self-contained Pianola



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1. The Weber Piano, a pianoforte of the highest musical standing and excellence, and
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In this combination instrument all the beauties of tone that have made the Weber famous the world over have been retained to the utmost. Quite apart from the Pianola mechanism, it is a complete Weber Piano, with all the artistic character achieved by a half-century of study, improvement and progress. Its union with the Metrostyle

Pianola is peculiarly fitting, for to the superb tone and magnificent resources of this world famous instrument has been added the means of bringing them out in the fullest degree.

The Weber Pianola Piano is a musical instrument without a compeer, and with it, any one, no matter how utterly unskilled in the perplexities of the keyboard, or how little versed in the mysteries of musical scores, can bring out the full qualities of the best music without previous training.

The purchaser of a Weber Pianola Piano obtains in a single case the highest type of piano and with the means of playing upon it anything from a popular song to a Beethoven symphony.

Your present piano will be accepted in part payment at fair valuation. The Weber Pianola Piano is on constant exhibition at Aeolian Hall for the merely curious as well as the intending purchaser.

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY, Aeolian Hall, 262 FIFTH AVENUE, NEAR 34TH STREET.

BIG BATTLESHIPS THE BEST.

JAPAN ADOPTS THAT NAVAL LESSON FROM THE WAR.

Mammoth Vessels She Is to Build Attract European Attention—Capacity of Her Dock Must Be Largely Increased—Tonnage Must Now Reach 18,500.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The Japanese naval programme, which was lately called to THE SUN, has been attracting the attention of European naval officers. The mammoth vessels which Japan contemplates building will necessitate such dock accommodations as Japan, before the war, was not known to possess, and if she, as is reported, proposes to turn out these vessels herself Japan must have secretly prepared or is preparing the biggest docks in the world.

The experience of the present war has convinced Japanese naval officers that the American and British theory that huge battleships will be the main factors in sea fighting in the future is the correct one, and they have resolved not to be behind the world's best vessels. Ten inch guns will be the smallest calibre, and twelve of these monsters will be carried by each vessel, besides four 12 inch guns. They are satisfied that 6 inch guns are useless for attack, as 4 inch armor is for defence. The enormous concussion of such a battery will necessitate special construction, which, it is recognized, may limit the speed of the vessel. It is estimated that nothing less than a tonnage of 18,500 will be useful for these vessels.

The battleships *Kashima* and *Katori*, of 15,400 tons, are now being built for Japan's order at Elswick and Barrow. They will carry four 12 inch guns and four 10 inchers, and each will throw 5,400 pounds of metal. The vessels of the proposed new type, however, will throw 9,400 pounds.

The British battleship *Lord Nelson*, now building, will throw 7,200 pounds of metal. The vessels of this class were originally designed to be of a tonnage of 18,000, but lack of dock accommodations prevented this idea from being carried out.

TO PASS ON CANAL BIDS.

Superintendent Franchot Says He May Take Action Next Week.

ALBANY, Jan. 28.—State Superintendent of Public Works Franchot returned to the city to-day after an absence of several days. When asked if he would immediately take up the matter of awarding the contracts for the first six pieces of work on the barge canal, for which proposals were received in December, he said that he might take action next week.

Now that the Attorney-General has decided that the reception of the two classes of bids, those for a lump sum and for unit prices, was legal, Mr. Franchot says he will proceed with due diligence to pass upon the bids. He has received nothing bearing upon the question of the constitutionality of the barge canal law, which the anti-canals people are to argue shortly before the Attorney-General, and he said that it was impossible for him to say whether this phase of the matter would cause him delay in making the awards of the contracts.

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THE LEWIS ARBITRATION BILL.

Its Author Says It Contains Nothing Making Arbitration Compulsory.